

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 04303 020533Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 /031 W

----- 021930

R 020507Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6068

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4303

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AS, PINT

SUBJECT: LAUNCESTON TEACHER TO SUE PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM

1. PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM IS BEING SUED BY A LAUNCESTON TEACHER. MR. TIM MCGLYNN, AS A RESULT OF AN ARGUMENT WHICH TOOK PLACE AT LAUNCESTON MATRCIULATION COLLEGE ON JUNE 27 DURING THE BASS BY-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER IN RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON AUSTRALIAN RECOGNITION OF THE SOVIET ANNEXATION OF LATVIA, ESTONIA, AND LITHUANIA STATED THAT IN THE 1930'S ALL THREE STATES WERE FAS-CIST. MR. MCGLYNN THEN SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S HISTORY WAS IN DOUBT. MR. MCGLYNN SAID THAT WHILE LITHUANIA WAS A FAS-CIST STATE, ESTONIA HAD DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND LATVIA WAS A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY UNTIL IT WAS TAKEN OVER. AT THIS POINT, THE PRIME MINISTER LOST HIS TEMPER AND, AS IS HIS CUSTOM IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, ATTEMPTED TO BULLY MR. MCGLYNN. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID QTE I PRESUME YOU ARE A TEACHER AND I DON'T BELIEVE YOU SHOULD MISLEAD YOUR STUDENTS. END QTE THIS STATEMENT WAS GREETED WITH CHEERS AND BOOS BY THE STUDENTS AND THE PRIME MINISTER THEN TOLD MR. MCGLYNN QTE YOU ARE A DISGRACE TO YOUR PROFESSION. END QTE

3. MR. MCGLYNN SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED FOR A WRITTEN APOLOGY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 04303 020533Z

FROM THE PRIME MINISTER BUT AS NONE WAS FORTHCOMING HE IN-

STRUCTURED HIS SOLICITOR ON JULY 1 TO INITIATE LEGAL ACTION  
AGAINST THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. COMMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER WAS TIRED AT THE TIME THIS  
INCIDENT OCCURRED AND WAS ALSO AWARE THAT THE ALP'S BY-ELECTION  
CAMPAIGN WAS GOING BADLY. HE CERTAINLY DIDN'T HELP MATTERS  
BY MAKING A STATEMENT OF QUESTIONABLE ACCURACY AND PICKING A  
FIGHT WITH A SCHOOL TEACHER. THE OVERALL IMPRESSION WAS  
THAT OF WHITLAM AT HIS WORST, A DOGMATIC, INTEMPERATE BULLY.  
WE DO NOT KNOW, OF COURSE, HOW THE COURTS WILL TREAT MCGLYNN'S  
SUIT. MCGLYNN, IT MIGHT BE ADDED, HAS STATED THAT HE HAS  
ALWAYS VOTED FOR THE LABOR PARTY.  
GREEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COURT PROCEEDINGS, BYELECTION, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CANBER04303  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750228-0842  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750789/aaaadbmj.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LAUNCESTON TEACHER TO SUE PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM  
**TAGS:** PINT, AS, AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY, (WHITLAM, E GOUGH), (MCGLYNN, TIM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006